

Remarks

In the official action the Examiner sets forth a restriction requirement asserting that claims 1-28, drawn to an interconnection, are directed to a distinct invention compared to claim 42, directed to an optical interconnection.

As the Examiner will note by reference to the claim amendments made above, a new claim 43, which is dependent upon claim 1 has been introduced. New claim 43 is of rather similar scope to claim 42 and if the Examiner is going to examine claim 43, along with all the other dependent claims, it is not seen why the Examiner should not also examine claim 42 in the same application.

Moreover, it is submitted that the restriction requirement is not proper. The Examiner asserts that the combination could be used as a transceiver. However, the combination can also be used as an optical integrated circuit, and therefore the Examiner has not shown that the subcombination has separate utility.

As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the restriction requirement and to withdraw it.

If the Examiner refuses to withdraw the restriction requirement, then the Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group I, namely claims 1-28 identified in the official action. It is submitted that new claim 43 submitted herewith should also be grouped with the claims of Group I since it is properly dependent upon on claim 1.

Claim 42 has been amended to correct an obvious editorial error. The amendment in no way effects the scope of claim 42.

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents

POB 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

July 1, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Corinda Humphrey

(Name of Person Signing)

*Corinda Humphrey*

(Signature)

July 1, 2004

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



Richard P. Berg

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 28,145

LADAS & PARRY

5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100

Los Angeles, California 90036

(323) 934-2300